

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/775,318	BAULIER, DOMINIQUE	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel C Crane	3725	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed November 16, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-5.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

In the first line of the specification, --, now patent no. 6,739,169-- has been inserted after "2002" and before ".".

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER

The Terminal Disclaimer filed December 9, 2004 has been recorded and approved.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: One reason for allowance is that the claims are different from the claimed features of the parent patent thus obviating any double patenting between the claims of the present application and the claims in applicant's parent patent. Additionally, the claims are deemed to be definitive over the prior art of record because the method, *inter alia*, involves a prehemming tool having a particular curvilinear surface radius and the perpendicular flange has a bending radius of specifically defined radius.

"By utilizing a prehemming tool having such a radius, the initial angle of impact between the prehemming tool and the free edge of the flange is in the range of

Art Unit: 3725

55 degrees to 70 degrees and thus much sharper than the previously known 45 degrees prehemming tools. This high angle of impact between the curvilinear prehemming tool and the outer free edge of the flange of the present invention effectively imparts a force on the flange between the prehemming tool and in a direction towards the bend line between the flange and the remainder of the outer panel. In practice, this force effectively retains the bend line in a fixed position relative to the outer panel during the entire prehemming operation.”
(Page 6, line 15, through Page 7, line 3, of the specification)

The contact is inherently accomplished because the force is effectively maintained on the flange throughout the bending operation to retain the bend line in a fixed position relative to the outer panel as the flange is being bent.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

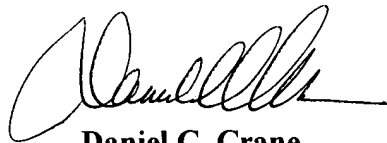
INQUIRIES

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner D. Crane whose telephone number is (571) 272-4516. The examiner's office hours are 6:30 AM – 5:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Mr. Allen Ostrager, can be reached at (571) 272-4521.

Art Unit: 3725

Documents related to the instant application may be submitted directly to Group 3700 by facsimile transmission at all times. Applicant(s) is(are) reminded to clearly mark any transmission as "DRAFT" if it is not to be considered as an official response. The Group 3725 Facsimile Center number is **(703) 872-9306**.

DCCrane
December 29, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel C. Crane', with a stylized, flowing script.

Daniel C. Crane
Primary Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 3725